

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability of claims 1-55 if rewritten to overcome the deficiencies of claims 1, 3, 26, and 30 as noted in the Office Action.

- 5 Claims 1-16, 19-40, 42, 43, and 46-55 have been amended to more fully claim that to which Applicants believe they are entitled. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-55 remain pending in the present application.

As required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b), Applicants have contacted WIPO to request that a certified copy of German application 19900636.9 be forwarded to your offices.

- 10 Claim 30 stands objected to due to an informality. Claim 30 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. As such, Applicants request that the objection to claim 30 be withdrawn.

- 15 Claims 1-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3, and 26 have been amended to overcome the antecedent basis issues raised by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection of claims 1, 3, 26, and those claims dependent therefrom, be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicants have amended claims 1-16, 19-40, 42, 43, and 46-55 to conform to common U.S. practice. Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims are not made in response to any prior art of record and no new matter has been added.

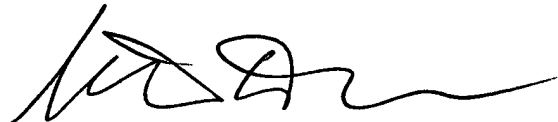
- 20 Applicants submit, attached hereto, a copy of an international search report and references cited therein for the Examiner's review. As shown in the search report, the references are all designated as "category A."

- 25 In view of the foregoing remarks and for various other reasons readily apparent, Applicants submit that all of the claims now present are allowable, and withdrawal of the rejections and a Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited.

If any impediment to the allowance of the claims remains after consideration of this amendment, a telephone interview with the undersigned at (214) 969-2751 is hereby requested so that such impediments may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

- 5 No additional fee is believed to be required with this response. However, please charge Deposit Account No. 010657 for any additional fees required in conjunction with the papers filed herewith.

Respectfully Submitted,



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